

**SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
(PUBLIC PARTICIPATION)**

May 1, 2007

7:00 PM

Mayor Guinta called the meeting to order.

Mayor Guinta called for the Pledge of Allegiance, which was led by Alderman Thibault.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Clerk called the roll. There were fourteen Aldermen were present.

Present: Aldermen Roy, Gatsas, Long, Duval, Osborne, Pinard, O’Neil, Lopez, Shea, DeVries, Garrity, Smith, Thibault, Forest.

Mayor Guinta advised that the purpose of the special meeting is to give residents of Manchester the opportunity to address the Board on items of concern affecting the community; that each person will be given only one opportunity to speak; that comments shall be limited to three minutes to allow all participants the opportunity to speak and any comments must be directed to the Chair.

Mayor Guinta requested that any resident wishing to speak come forward to the nearest microphone, clearly state their name and address when recognized, and give their comments.

Keith Hirschmann, 296 Dunbarton Road, Manchester, NH (Re: Corcoran), stated:

Good evening, Mayor and Aldermen. I’m here tonight to provide feedback...there was a neighborhood meeting in Ward 12 at the Northwest Elementary School in which Corcoran Environmental Services had invited some abutters to a meeting to discuss. Their proposed building up on Dunbarton Road, and to tell their tone of the meeting did not go well, I personally did not get invited although I live on Dunbarton Road, I do not know the abutter list got cut off before they got to my house, but about 40 people did attend, and out of the 40 it was unanimous that nobody was in favor of having Corcoran facilities on Dunbarton Road. To start over Corcoran Environmental seems to be a very prominent upcoming company that could do Manchester a lot of good, and their way stream initiative seem to make sense, with a little revenue for the city, unfortunately, when the neighbors heard the roll out of they actually planned to do in our neighborhood, is to bring waste, recyclable waste, ...in streamline fashion from Hudson. From many communities across the state, to the tune of possibly at peak 80 tractor trailers per day, on Dunbarton Road, on Front Street coming from areas of, Goffstown, Milford, could be coming down Boynton Street, could be coming down

a lot of roads, but the traffic impact scares the neighbors so greatly, that we're quite frankly. worried about the de-evaluation of our homes. That this plan was thought out to point were Ward 12 citizens were really taken into consideration we asked what the alternate site talked about, was, East Industrial Drive a true industrial area. I do not know what the answer is, I understand they have a contract, and I understand that there are some processes to go through, and have to go to the planning board and the zoning board of adjustments. People are so dismayed in our neighbor that they don't know what to do. They are living in fear of the possibility of 80 tractor-trailers a day come down the road. There is a talk of Corcoran of having a second shift, there was talk of having loads going by on Saturday. Anything and everything that you could possibly do in your power, I ask you as just a resident and as someone who lives in that neighborhood, please respect our neighborhood. This is suppose the year of the neighborhoods, so I'm really asking all of you to really take second look at what's going on with this contract.

Steve Vaillancourt, 161 Faith Lane, Manchester, NH (Re: MCAM-MCTV), stated:
 Thank you Your Honor and members of the Board. I am in my sixth term as State Representative from Ward 8, home of the Manchester-Boston Regional Airport. I pause now to get a smile out of people, also I collect my commission from the outgoing airport manager, but I justify at the State House, I always say that by way of identifying the airport I usually make a joke that I expect a commission from Kevin Dillon, and that you will pay up before you leave, Kevin. I am hear tonight to talk about something serious however, maybe you receive the press release I sent yesterday, next week, next Thursday May 10th, the House Finance committee, will be considering in a public hearing CRCR18, the governors proposal for constitutional amendment which would solve, perhaps the Claremont educational dilemma, that I next Thursday morning 9:00, in the legislative office building. As you know when I was an Alderman and here as a State Representative, I feel that one of our primary obligations is for the people to get to know what is happening, with that in mind, I have arranged along with Mcam Channel 3 3 Director Joe Lahr, to film the hearing next Thursday morning and to provide unedited same day coverage on Mcam 23, it will run next Thursday afternoon from 3 till 5 and then again Thursday night from 11 to 1 in morning. So you can hear what the Governor, Senators and Reps are saying about this very important Constitutional amendment, again, that will be next Thursday May 10th, 3 to 5 in the afternoon and again at 11 o'clock at night. This is Manchester access media channel 23, which had its grand opening to the studio last week. Your Honor, I saw you there, Chairman of the Board, Alderman Pinard, congratulations for being there, Joe Lahr, has done an outstanding job, not only in bringing religious programming, political programming, entertainment programming, a wide variety of programming, and that gets me to my other point.. As you know as an Alderman and State Rep, I have tried several times, unsuccessfully, to have State House Sessions and other governments affairs programs broadcast on Channel 16 and 22, the stations run by Doctor Grace Sullivan. Once again she is abrogating her responsibility to bring information to the public, instead of bringing this important information she is forcing channel 23 to do it. Meanwhile, channel 22 and 16 are

running the same shows, over and over and over again, adinfinitum and adnauseum, a Fifteen Year Old, sporting event. The Ward 7 meeting over and over again, 10 -20 times, its time to combine channel 22 and channel 16, and Dan O'Neil give back extract Channel to MCAM. They are doing 3 times as much as 16 and 22 and getting half the cost. It's time say yes to Joe Lahr, and no to Dr. Grace.

Glenn R. J. Ouellett, 112 Auburn Street #A, Manchester, NH (Re: Bridge Street, Quality of Life), stated:

Good Evening ladies and gentlemen. Budget... that poor budget...Highway Department, we're not 20 men we're 25 men...They could state they'll hide anything, no lay off, he says no lay off. Well 20 men you have 9 now available as an opening, 9 and 20, 9 minus 20 does not add up, someone is gonna get lay off, or you're going tolet someone retire and not refill that position. Don't tell the public that nobody will get layed off and its going to be 9 men, when now we are talking the possibility of 25 men. The work won't get done, Alderman 8, and all the other 12 wards. This department does the most for the city when comes to plowing, garbage, road construction, it is necessary, it is infrastructure of our neighborhoods, being called a neighborhood of the year. What are doing to our city? Again I want a tax cut, but not on destroying the infrastructure, that is important to the city. You got to out a bid like you did, you stop that to save money. This department brings in nine million dollars. It ain't gonna do this year if you short point 25 men. This week, Wednesday and Thursday was the grand opening of Studio A, at MCAM 23, again I would like to thank the Mayor, Alderman-at-Large Mr. Lopez, and Aldermen 6, Mr. Pinard, because out of 50 people here 3 people on the 2 nights showed up 3 people, I can understand one night but 2 nights, this is also part of the 3 city. Where is the support? It's a shame. The last thing I want to say...again it's on budget, it has to do, I am so happy your Honor that you started at base 0. In the last to years, it's catching on and it's a good thing, the city needed this very badly, to see more we need to cut where we don't need to cut. But I beginning to fee cheated right now but I'm, not the only I've had many phone calls. Someone feel cheated because it ..started at 0 base, but now it's across the base cut 4% all departments except, for the Police and Fire Department Now this is what I am going to close with: Health: last year the city constantly asked the citizen to keep water out of their little flower pots because of the bugs, because of triple E, I'm going to tell you again, last fall we had the dangerous bug, the city was the one that was most corporate in breaking those laws. And it s going to happen again this year, because you cut one hundred eighty thousand dollars out of the Health Department. Is there a fund and emergency fund in case you need it? We haven't heard about it, so please try to be more forthright to the public, and tell us what is really going on here. Thank you

Kathleen Carswell, 390 Amherst Street, Manchester, NH stated:

And my main address is I don't know how to really put it but my whole neighborhood has gone from bad to worse. We did have meeting mayor with you and to address to issue of the extreme prostitution, the John's going around 15 20 25 30 times. Every evenings. I write

plates down I call the police department its getting to be a joke. I've gotten laughed at by the Police Department. I can tell you we've gotten probably 160-170 times now between beginning of this year till now on this issue. I'm sure that you would not like your sons to playing out on the front lawn and have one the prostitutes come by with vulgar language, obscene gestures. They have a store to hide in now, they have drugs right on the corner, which I personally watch one that the prostitutes buy from. It's I mean, we have slumlords, we have a habitat humanities house trying to be built, that has not been touched in a year. I don't know what more we can do in our neighborhood, but picket up and down the streets. My neighbors are frustrated, I got elderly neighbors I have....I am basically the sounding board, because I'm not afraid, I'm out there my face is out there all the so called not so nice people know me. I'm out there every night I sit on the corner I watch them go by I record it like I'm suppose to. They say to keep calling, to keep calling, and it's getting to be nothing more than really a joke. And people say we get nothing but more talk to and nothing seems to happen and I don't know where to go my neighbors, my older neighbors are frightened, I got a neighbor who cannot sell his house, he had to move his wife back from Florida cause the...prostitution, high rate of that as well as the traffic we have, which is unbelievable. You sit one night with me you will see what I mean. I have another neighbor who cannot rent his apartment because they do not all want the trouble. I have another neighbor moving out because she cannot have her young ones sit out in the grass and play. A three year old cannot play outside, I think that's terrible. I've lived in this city 45 years, I think its disgusting. I feel bad I've seen the city grow as a small town to a big city, I know you cannot eliminate all the crime. We're going have our hot spots we're going to have, but say curb it when we can. Put the money, put the finances where we need to be. Mr Duval would like to have an area up on top of the hill by McDonough School another play area for the children. I say take that money and fund it down to the bottom of the hill where we live. I do not want to move out, I've lived that neighborhood 15 years, where I live now. I grew up 3 ..and I've lived in this city for 45 years . and I've never had problems but the last 2 years in the city and now I got a response and I think it's bad, and my neighbors and my neighborhood watch group would like to know if we could get an answer somehow. How we can fix this, soon with action instead of words. Thank you very much.

Kathy Staub 374 Laurel Street Manchester stated:

Good evening. I am on the monitoring committee of the district in need of Improvement.Group, and I sent each of you a letter outlining what the district in need of improvement plan is. Includes updating the curriculum to align with the sate standards professional development program for helping teachers teach the new curriculum and assisting for assessing students needs and evaluating teaching practice, and I come to you tonight because I know that this is budget season.. But I would like you to take a longer term, make a longer term investment of your vision and in your love of the city. in improving our school district. . Because our schools are a part of the whole package that is what Manchester has to offer . and we need to make it a priority to improve our school district. I have been a parent in the Manchester Schools for 12 years. I've 3 superintendents and now

I'm on my third mayor, and I really have come to believe that if you are waiting for the man on the white horse to come in and solve everything for us it's not going to happen. Truly the only way that we are going to improve our schools is if we all work together. And I think that as the Board of Aldermen you have a stake in having a good school system, because for example you have just hired a new economic director, and you can hire the very best person in the world for that, but he needs to have good school system in his portfolio because when he goes to perspective business' that are looking for someplace to locate, if he does not have that he would be at a disadvantage, and that puts the whole city of Manchester at a disadvantage. I appreciate your listening to me tonight and I hope that you'll take kind of a broader look at where we need to look at our school system, not just this budget season, but for the next one and the next one and the next one, because I think the district improvement plan offers a solution, it's based on best practices, and I think we to look over the long term for how we are going to make it work. We need to keep the plan filed while we redesign it, but we do need to make that investment because it is vital for future for city of Manchester. Thank You.

Lionel LeBlanc, 203 Belmont Street Manchester stated:

Honor Mayor and Alderman, Good Evening, first thing I notice tonight, there's no place to park. I have very good undertaker he want's my business, he wants to fry me something, so let park in this parking lot. I thank you all Aldermen tonight because you are my mind...For next year, Mayor Guinta is your Mayor. Bob Baines was defeated. So I want you people to work more with him. Anytime he comes out with an issue don't vote it down he never has enough among you to sustain everything, you overrule him, don't act like bunch of a flock of geese. Support your Mayor...One thing that burns me up, is when I read my paper, the chapter appropriate four million dollars for the teachers. I figured it out and each one is getting thirty three thousand dollars a piece, why don't they show some humility and be humble and refuse that thirty three thousand, because for all the time they been teaching they end up with their MBA so they make top dollar, that means they will double that amount when they retire. After all you people are suppose to run this city, not the unions, we got to do some "Boston" "I would like to abolish the ACLU. And this tax, on my property was abominable I never seen anything like this in my life, one hundred fifty thousand, one hundred and fifty percent increase, that's ridicules, you've got Circuit City, these people never live here never contributed here make all kinds of money on Willow Street, which is the new Elm Street, ends up with a 44 percent tax decrease. Who do you think made up the difference? It's the property owners, my Lord that went fast time flies here. So come on, get with you Aldermen, he's our, Mayor Baines is not the Mayor, we defeated him. Thank You.

Jim Nielsen 45 Sagamore Street Manchester stated:

Good Evening. I'm coming here to talk a bit about the future budget possibility involving the muses and arts program in the city of Manchester. Music and Arts contribute too more than just high SAT and achievement test scores. Music and Arts are connected to the general educational program and every other very important way. They are for instance among the

best solutions for absenteeism and dropping out of school. They are often the main reasons, some students stay in school. Students who don't do well in reading, writing and arithmetic, left brain task, will often do much better in right brain activity, like music and art. So they stay in school, indeed of all the programs to keep kids in schools music and arts programs are proven to be among the most effective. But ladies and gentlemen, music and art are the answer to an even larger and important question. Where would the soul of art students come from? Please understand when I talk about soul I'm using neither the religious definition nor term in popular music. But I am talking about the values, the esthetics and the ability to appreciate that best civilization has to offer. Hear Plato on the subject "the decisive importance education in poetry and music, rhythm and harmony seep deep into the recesses of the soul and take the strongest hold there, bringing the grace of body and mind, which is only to be found in one who is brought up in the right way. Moreover, proper training of this kind makes a man quick to perceive any defect or ugliness in art or nature. Such deformity will likely disgust him... Proving all that is lovely they will welcome into his home with joy into his soul, and nourish thereby grow into a man of noble spirit. All that is ugly and disgraceful he likely condemn and abhor while he is still too young to understand the reason, and when reason comes he will greet her as a friend, with whom his education has made him long familiar" end of Plato. Let me urge our goal of education this motto of Plato, knowledgeable, logical, and analytical but also noble spirited and able to discern between the ugly and the lovely, the disgraceful and the noble. Indeed to educate our children with numbers only, with books only with computer and test tubes by themselves, this will provide plenty of data but not personally meaning, a corps but no soul. The letterhead of the Manchester School Department used to and possibly still does go something like this," New Hampshire's largest and finest" you cut such programs as music and art, how will the letterhead read? New Hampshire's largest though among it's most inferior,' truly no one here is satisfied with mediocrity or worse yet inferiority. Let's find the resources and be New Hampshire's largest and finest school system, as the Queen City should be. Ten years ago, I help lead the fight that dealt with the massacre of the school system. I recall when we had schools that were filthy music and arts programs being jeopardy and some of you who are here know exactly what I am talking about. We have created a system in which if you are familiar with the movie, Mr.Holland's Opus , with you are familiar with that movie your will find that we have in this school system a Mr. Holland. But today we have many Mr. and Ms. Hollands who are doing a terrific jobs through those music programs. I know because I was in the middle of that fight. There are those will bragged...I, it was ten years ago that I also did a survey of fifteen hundred students in the music and arts programs and what we learned from that were two things, one the high achievement of those involved in those programs, and the fact that the school board and the aldermen don't talk to each other. I hope that is not the case today. Take one other sense of pride, today we have leading the United States Marine band two people, One the drum major who is a graduate of Central High School, and the other the conductor an assistant conductor of the Marine Band, who is also a graduate of Central High School. Both those people graduated some ten years ago. The assistant conductor was the youngest conductor ever selected in the history of music of

military music outfits. I urge to truly look at how the school the system has changed how much better it has become in many ways, six years ago the challenge was that we needed very much to change the atmosphere of the school leadership was provided, and with that came certainly increase in taxes, but that was the price you had to pay if you wanted change the deteriorating situation. . Please don't go back there.

Cheryl Mitchell 352 Lake Ave. Manchester, stated:

Good Evening. I'm not here to complain about anything, I'm just here to voice my opinion on a couple of things, one I had to say thank you to Mr. Osborne, he is doing a great job in our ward, a lot of things have been taken care of I run an organization called egolyist community organization. And we sent newsletter to about 80 people in our area, and we are doing very well right now. But what I'd like to ...like to bring forth is that we are a neighborhood watch folks. We do clean ups, we bring issues to Mr. Osborne to Mayor Guinta, he gets on of our newsletter as well, to see what's going on, and I think people need to unite together, not to bash each other not to argue with each other. There is going to be crime in this world there is going to be prostitution there is going to be dog poop in the ground. Always is going to be forever and ever. That we all need to do is to pull together to try to compromise and work forward to making our world a better place. I have to say to that I just finished the citizen police academy and I give 110% to the Manchester Police Department I thank them for that, because I have learned so much more and if anybody can ever go to these classes, they should because I have come out of it with a lot more respect for the Manchester Police Department and the City Departments as well. But as I said, I think things are going fairly well but one of my biggest things is I guess once the prostitutes and, and the people who do crimes and so forth are brought forth. The police and everybody else is doing their jobs but sometimes when they get to the judges the judges slap them on the wrists and then they send them on. And it takes three four and five times before there are before they finally decide they are going to stop doing what they're doing. And I think at that maybe at that level I don't know how the whole system works, I'm not a politician, but I really think that they need to step up they need to work with the team they need to be able to say "hey" we need to make bigger fines, so that these people stop doing the crimes that they are doing. Thank you very much.

There being no one else present wishing to speak, on motion of Alderman Pinard, duly seconded by Alderman Long, it was voted to take all comments under advisement and further to receive and file any written documentation presented.

This being a special meeting of the Board, no further business was presented and on motion of Alderman Thibault duly seconded by Alderman Devries it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk